

What is claimed:

1. A seat assembly selectively engaging forward and rearward strikers along a floor of an automotive vehicle, said seat assembly comprising:

a seat cushion;

a seat back pivotally coupled to said seat cushion;

a seat riser coupled to said seat cushion and including spaced apart rear legs, said seat riser including a rear latch operatively coupled to each of said rear legs for movement between a latched position engaged with the corresponding rearward strikers and an unlatched position disengaged from the corresponding rearward strikers; and

a spring assist member including a lever portion extending between a first end fixedly secured to said rear leg and an opposite second distal end for engaging the rearward striker to assist in pivoting said seat assembly about the forward strikers as said rear latches release the rearward strikers in said unlatched position.

2. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said spring assist member includes a coiled spring mounted along said rear leg.

3. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein said second distal end is a free end movable relative to said first end.

4. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 3 wherein said rear leg includes an elongated slot for receiving said movable free end of said lever portion therewithin.

5. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 4 wherein each of said rear legs includes an opening for receiving and retaining the rearward strikers between said rear legs and said rear latches and said lever portion traversing said opening for engaging the rearward striker.

6. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 5 including a support post fixedly secured to one of said rear legs for receiving said coiled spring therearound.

7. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 6 wherein said support post includes a radial slot for receiving said first end of said lever portion.

8. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 7 including a release handle operatively connected to each of said rear latches for actuating said rear latches from said latched position to said unlatched position thereby releasing the rearward strikers therefrom.

9. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 8 wherein said spring assist member is partially coated with a plastic isolator material for dampening vibration between said spring assist member and the rearward strikers.

10. A seat assembly as set forth in claim 9 wherein said seat riser includes a pair of front legs having front latches operatively coupled thereto for selectively engaging the forward strikers.